

March 11, 1974

PRESIDENT: You've heard the motion to advance the bill as amended. All those in favor of the motion please say aye. Those opposed say no. The bill's...as amended is advanced.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: I move the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB957.

PRESIDENT: You heard the motion to adopt the E & R amendments to LB957. All those in favor of the motion please say aye. Those opposed say no. So ordered, the amendments are adopted. Are there other amendments to the bill?

CLERK: Now, Mr. President, we have a motion to indefinitely postpone LB957. Signed, Senator Fellman.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Fellman for his motion.

SENATOR FELLMAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I was absent the afternoon last week when this bill was debated. This is the bill that revokes, calls for the revocation of a person's drivers license for non-payment of child support. And the vote, as I understand it, was rather lopsided and there was debate on many issues including the outlandish.....

PRESIDENT: I don't understand why it is that three times this afternoon I've had to ask for order. I'm going to once again remind the Body that we have 18 legislative days left and each time that we have that much confusion, we delay the proceedings by that much. Additionally, I would just courteously add that you put the Chair in an uncompromising position as your leader. Senator Fellman, you have the floor, you may proceed.

SENATOR FELLMAN: I would like to talk to the members of the Legislature for just a few moments about LB957. And if you will excuse me, I don't think that I have taken this approach in any matter since I've been in the Legislature now. But it seems to me that if we pass this bill, we rightfully have deserved and earned the reputation of being a bunch of yo-yos that meet in Lincoln and pass a lot of stupid silly legislation. Now, I acknowledge that child support are the....or the lack of payment, unpaid child support is a problem. I would call it a crisis. Not only in Nebraska but in America. I've shared a sub-committee from the Judiciary Committee that held hearings last summer and this fall and I think I'm as aware of this problem as anyone else in this legislative body. And I share the frustration that everyone has at the apparent inability to do anything about it. But to take a problem that we seem to have trouble grappling with and solve it or pretend to solve it with a silly provision like this does nothing but momentarily give the members of this Legislature a feeling that by golly, we went and did something. Now, I'm told that there was discussion last week and this was advanced about the fact that attorneys would be cut out of their fees and I'm well aware of the popularity of cutting out lawyers fees. But I would tell you that if this bill is passed, you are going to earn a sizable amount of money for a relatively sizable number of lawyers who will tie up cases where this is invoked until somebody gets it to the Supreme Court and it's declared unconstitutional. More lawyers will earn more money fighting